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VCA Rehema Daudi with program beneficiaries, Meli village.
Photo: Frank Kimaro

TANZANIA

AIDS-FREE GENERATION – VOLUNTARY MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION PROGRAM

The Strengthening High Impact Interventions for an AIDS-Free Generation (AIDSFree) Program is working with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) as well as regional and council health management teams to attain 80 percent male circumcision coverage in the regions it supports. The program will ensure sustainable Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) and early infant male circumcision (EIMC) services that are embedded in the public health system and maintain 80 percent coverage after the project ends.

The World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) list voluntary medical male circumcision as a proven, cost-effective intervention for the prevention of HIV, urging countries with high HIV prevalence and low circumcision rates to incorporate the procedure into their national prevention programs as part of a comprehensive package. Under the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), USAID has supported efforts to expand voluntary medical male circumcision in five priority regions: Iringa, Njombe, Tabora, Singida, and Morogoro.

AIDSFree collaborates closely with the USAID Sauti project to ensure men diagnosed with HIV in VMMC services are linked to care, with a successful linkage rate of over 90 percent in FY 2018. In addition, AIDSFree provides onsite VMMC services at Sauti community sites with an aim to reach high risk men over the age of 20 years old.

The project works closely with regional and council health management teams to plan for transition to sustainability. In an effort to improve adolescent friendly services, AIDSFree has developed the *Timu ya Ushindi* program which provides sexual and reproductive health training (including VMMC) to teachers and educators to integrate into schools. Health care providers and community workers have also been trained on how to engage and provide adolescent friendly messaging and education.

RESULTS TO DATE

- More than 100 sites have delivered VMMC services
- Supported sexual and reproductive health training integration in over 70 health facilities across five regions
- 1,800 health care providers have been trained in VMMC and EIMC service delivery
- Over 890,000 adolescent boys and men utilized VMMC services (with over 95 percent receiving HIV testing services through VMMC)
- 10,000 infant males utilized EIMC services
- The results will avert an estimated 9,000 HIV infections

BUDGET

\$28.9 million PEPFAR

DURATION

October 2014 – December 2019

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Iringa, Njombe, Tabora, Morogoro, and Singida regions

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Prime: John Snow, Inc. (JSI)

Subpartner: Jhpiego

PARTNERS

- Caritas Tabora
- Tabora Development Fund Trust
- Tanzania Health Economics Association
- Iringa Mercy Organization
- Support Makete to Self-Support
- Community Participatory in Sustainable Development Organization

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